

## 2015 Rural Mail Count

### I. PREFACE

#### A. Purpose and Content

USPS-FY15-40 aggregates data collected from the two recent (February/March, 2015 and February/March, 2014) Rural Mail Counts (RMC) for two purposes: 1) to determine the sizes of the cost pools by route type ('Evaluated' and 'Other'); and 2) to use the results from part 1) to calculate volume variability factors for by route type. The relevant results of this aggregation are included in USPS-FY15-32 and USPS-FY15-NP14 (commonly called the "B" Workpapers) in workbook I-Forms, tab I-Factors.

#### B. Predecessor Documents

ACR 2014, USPS-FY14-40.

#### C. Corresponding Non-Public or Public Document

There is no corresponding Non-Public document to USPS-FY15-40.

#### D. Methodology Changes

None

#### E. Input/Output

USPS-FY15-40 relies on no inputs from other ACR materials. Outputs are used by USPS-FY15-32 and USPS-FY15-NP14.

### II. ORGANIZATION

The relevant source code and RMC data are provided on the accompanying CD-ROM. The contents of the CD-ROM are described below.

The CD-ROM that accompanies USPS-FY15-40 includes the following files:

USPS-FY15-40.Preface.pdf	Preface
FY2014.March.RMCFlat.data	RMC Dataset
FY2015.March.RMCFlat.data	RMC Dataset
RMC2015AnalysisforCRA.sas	SAS program for analysis of RMC data

### III. RMC DOCUMENTATION

#### A. Overview

USPS-FY15-40 contains the RMC data from the February/March 2015 and February/March 2014 RMC and the SAS program, log, and output from the RMC conducted in 2015.

The RMC consists of data collected from the most recent route evaluation performed on each active rural route. The data includes the route type ('Evaluated' and 'Other'), counts for each evaluation item, and the time allowance given for each evaluation item. The output from the SAS program is used in two ways: 1) to determine the sizes of the cost pools by route type; and 2) to use the results from part 1) to calculate volume variability factors by route type. Two recent evaluations were used for the FY2015 Cost and Revenue Analysis Report (CRA). The RMC conducted in February/March, 2014 was used for quarters 1 and 2 of FY2015, whereas the RMC conducted in February/March, 2015 was used for quarters 3 and 4 of FY2015.

#### B. Use of RMC in Cost Attribution

Rural carrier variability ratios are used to divide total rural carrier labor costs into variable and non-variable costs, as shown in USPS-FY15-32 and USPS-FY15-NP14, workbook CS10.xls, tab WS 10.0.1. Average weekly pieces are used to divide variable evaluation factors into cost pools for each rural evaluation category, such as letters, flats, and parcels delivered. This analysis using the February/March, 2014 RMC data is shown in workbook CS10.xls, tabs WS10.1.1 PQ1-2 and WS10.2.1 PQ 1-2. This analysis using the February/March, 2015 RMC data is shown in workbook CS10.xls, tabs 10.2.1 PQ3-4 and WS 10.2.1 PQ 3-4.

#### C. RMC Data and Analysis

The RMC dataset contains the most recent evaluation for each rural route. The February/March, 2015 dataset has 72,593 records, and the February/March 2014 dataset has 72,212 records. Each record represents a route and it includes the type of route ('Evaluated' and 'Other'), totals by each evaluation factor, number of days the route was counted, and the time allotment by evaluation item. Those data elements are used to compute the average time by evaluation category per route. The averages are then aggregated by route type for each evaluation item. Each evaluation item is treated as either 'fixed' (e.g. boxes served) or 'variable' (e.g. DPS letters delivered). The volume variability factor for each route type is calculated by taking ratio of the sum of all variable evaluation factors to the total over the sum of fixed and variable evaluation factors by route type.

## D. SAS Log Listing

The SAS log listing includes the format of the input RMC data file. This is the listing using the February/March, 2015 RMC data file.

```

1   options nocenter;
2   options nodate;
3   options nonumber;
4
5   ***** SET PATH NAME AS APPROPRIATE FOR YOUR COMPUTER;
6
7   *filename MAIL 'U:\RURAL\RMCDATA\fy2013\FY2012.SEPT.RMCFLAT.DATA';
8   *filename MAIL 'U:\RURAL\RMCDATA\fy2014\MAR2014.RMCFLAT.DATA';
9   filename MAIL 'U:\RURAL\RRMF\FY2015\MAR2015.RMCFLAT.DATA';
10
11  *****READ IN UNIVERSE DATA;
12  DATA A ; INFILE MAIL LRECL=820 missover ;
13  Input
14    RTTYPE $ 1-5
15    MILES  6-10 .2
16    BOXESR 11-20
17    BOXESC 21-30
18    NDCBU  31-40
19    PARLOCK 41-50
20    LETTERS 51-60
21    FLATS   61-70
22    PARCELS 71-80
23    BOXHOLD 81-90
24    REGCERT 91-100
25    CODCUST 101-110
26    CHGADDR 111-120
27    MARKUP  121-130
28    f3821  131-140
29    DPS    141-150
30    SECSEG 151-160
31    MONORDR 161-170
32    LETCOLL 171-180
33    PARCACC 181-190
34    REGACC  191-200
35    POSTDUE 201-210
36    LOADING 211-220
37    ALLOW   221-230
38    DSMOUNT 231-240
39    DSMFEET 241-250
40    PURCHST 251-260 .2
41    RETRCT  261-270 .2
42    POUCHST 271-280 .2
43    DLLETRT 281-290 .2
44    DLFLATT 291-300 .2
45    DLPAROT 301-310 .2
46    DLPARRT 311-320 .2
47    WITHDT  321-330 .2
48    STRAPT  331-340 .2
49    LOADNGT 341-350 .2
50    RETRCTT 351-360 .2
51    DISMNTT 361-370 .2
52    DISMNTDT 371-380 .2
53    BOXHLDT 381-390 .2
54    CODCSOT 391-400 .2
55    DLREGOT 401-410 .2
56    MARKUPT 411-420 .2
57    ADDRESST 421-430 .2
58    MNORDOT 431-440 .2
59    COLLFT   441-450 .2
60    PPACCOT 451-460 .2
61    STAMPST 461-470 .2
62    F3821T  471-480 .2

```

```

63 ALLOWT 481-490 .2
64 POSTDUT 491-500 .2
65 PERSNLT 501-510 .2
66 CODCSRT 511-520 .2
67 DLREGRT 521-530 .2
68 MNORDRT 531-540 .2
69 PPACCRRT 541-550 .2
70 COLREGT 551-560 .2
71 MILEST 561-570 .2
72 BOXESRT 571-580 .2
73 BOXESCT 581-590 .2
74 NDCBUT 591-600 .2
75 PARLCKT 601-610 .2
76 POUCHT 611-620 .2
77 SECSEGT 621-630 .2
78 DPST 631-640 .2
79 GOVVEHT 641-650 .2
80 REUNLDT 651-660 .2
81 TOTHRS 661-670 .2
82 TOTMIN 671-680 .2
83 ACTLHRS 681-690 .2
84 YEAR 691-695
85 SCANITEM 696-705
86 CPU 706-715
87 CPUITEM 716-725
88 DPSFLAT 726-735
89 PARS 736-745
90 SCANT 746-755 .2
91 SCNITEMT 756-765 .2
92 CPUOFCT 766-775 .2
93 CPURTET 776-785 .2
94 CPUITEMT 786-795 .2
95 DPSFLATT 796-805 .2
96 PARST 806-815 .2
97 Cntlen 816
98 LSTATUS $ 818
99 GOVVEH $ 820 ;
100
101

```

NOTE: The infile MAIL is:  
 File Name=U:\RURAL\RRMF\FY2015\MAR2015.RMCFLAT.DATA,  
 RECFM=V,LRECL=820

NOTE: 72593 records were read from the infile MAIL.  
 The minimum record length was 816.  
 The maximum record length was 820.

NOTE: The data set WORK.A has 72593 observations and 86 variables.

NOTE: DATA statement used (Total process time):  
 real time 0.83 seconds  
 cpu time 0.82 seconds

```

102 data a; set a;
103
104 IF RTTYPE = 'H' OR RTTYPE = 'J' OR RTTYPE = 'K' THEN TYPE = 'EVAL';
105 ELSE IF RTTYPE = 'A' OR RTTYPE = 'M' THEN TYPE = 'OTHR';
106 ELSE DELETE;
107
108

```

NOTE: There were 72593 observations read from the data set WORK.A.  
 NOTE: The data set WORK.A has 72581 observations and 87 variables.  
 NOTE: DATA statement used (Total process time):  
 real time 0.12 seconds  
 cpu time 0.12 seconds

```
109 PROC FREQ ; TABLES YEAR*TYPE;
```

NOTE: There were 72581 observations read from the data set WORK.A.

NOTE: PROCEDURE FREQ used (Total process time):

real time	0.09 seconds
cpu time	0.09 seconds

```

110 DATA A; SET A;
111
112 LETTERS = LETTERS / CNTLEN;
113 FLATS = FLATS / CNTLEN;
114 PARCELS = PARCELS / CNTLEN;
115 BOXHOLD = BOXHOLD / CNTLEN;
116 REGCERT = REGCERT / CNTLEN;
117 CODCUST = CODCUST / CNTLEN;
118 MARKUP = MARKUP / CNTLEN;
119 MONORDR = MONORDR / CNTLEN;
120 DPS = DPS / CNTLEN;
121 LETCOLL = LETCOLL / CNTLEN;
122 PARCACC = PARCACC / CNTLEN;
123 REGACC = REGACC / CNTLEN;
124 POSTDUE = POSTDUE / CNTLEN;
125 LOADING = LOADING / CNTLEN;
126 RETRCT = RETRCT / CNTLEN;
127 SECSEG = SECSEG / CNTLEN;
128 F3821 = F3821 / CNTLEN;
129 CHGADDR = CHGADDR / CNTLEN;
130 DSMOUNT = DSMOUNT / CNTLEN;
131 DSMFEET = DSMFEET / CNTLEN;
132 SCANITEM = SCANITEM / CNTLEN;
133 CPU = CPU / CNTLEN;
134 CPUITEM = CPUITEM / CNTLEN;
135 DPSFLAT = DPSFLAT / CNTLEN;
136 PARS = PARS / CNTLEN;
137
138 ****;
139 *** CALCULATE AVERAGE VALUES PER ROUTE ***;
140 ****;
```

NOTE: There were 72581 observations read from the data set WORK.A.

NOTE: The data set WORK.A has 72581 observations and 87 variables.

NOTE: DATA statement used (Total process time):

real time	0.13 seconds
cpu time	0.14 seconds

```

141 DATA A; SET A;
142 BOXESRL = 0;
143 L=0;
144 IF LSTATUS = 'L' THEN DO
145   BOXESRL = BOXESR;
146   BOXESR=0;
147   L = 1;
148 END;
149 *;
150 *SEASONAL ROUTES WILL HAVE VERY LOW MILEAGE PUT IN TO KEEP;
151 *ROUTE ACTIVE, SO REMOVE ROUTES WITH LOW MILEAGE;
152 *;
153 IF LETTERS = 0 or MILES LE .5 then delete;
154 OUTPUT;
```

NOTE: There were 72581 observations read from the data set WORK.A.

NOTE: The data set WORK.A has 72564 observations and 89 variables.

NOTE: DATA statement used (Total process time):

real time	0.11 seconds
cpu time	0.10 seconds

155 DATA A; SET A;

```

156   *;
157   *NEW STARTING OCT 30 2004 - ALL RURAL ROUTES TO GET 18 MIN;
158   *FOR RELOAD/UNLOAD TIME. SEE MOU;
159   *EVALUATION MAY NOT SHOW THIS, SO PUT IT IN;
160   *THE 18 MIN IS THE SAME REGARDLESS OF VOLUME, SO PUT IN;
161   *FIXED TIME;
162   *;
163 REUNLDT = 18;
164   *;
165   *ALSO, IN FY 2005 ADDED IN GOVERNMENT VEHICLE USAGE TIME
166   *TO FIXED FACTORS;
167 ****;
168   * NEW FOR FY 2009;
169   * SCANT = 6 MIN PER WEEK;
170   * SCANNER ITEMS = NON-SIGNATURE SCANT ITEMS, 18 SEC PER SCAN;
171   * INCLUDES DEL CON, SCAN, DU SAT & BUN SCANT
172   * CARRIER PICKUP = NUMBER OF REQUESTS (90 SEC PER REQUEST),
173   *           NUMBER OF ITEMS (9 SEC PER ITEM),
174   *           INCLUDES EM, PRIO, INTL
175   * 3982 LABELS = PARS LABEL, 15 SEC
176 ****;
177   * CALCULATE THE AVERAGE VALUE PER WEEK FOR EACH EVALUATION ITEM **;
178   * TO PUT INTO SPREADSHEETS WS 10.1.1 AND 10.2.1      **;
179 ****;
180   * FSS EVALUATION FACTOR (I.E. DPS FLATS) DIFFERENT FOR GOVVEH / NON GOVVEH - NEW FY 2011;
181   * new for sept. 2012 RMC do same for DPS;
182
183 FSS1 = 0; FSS2 = 0;
184 DPS1 = 0; DPS2 = 0;
185 IF GOVVEH = 'G' THEN DO;
186   FSS1 = DPSFLAT; FSS2 = 0;
187   DPS1 = DPS; DPS2=0;
188 END;
189 ELSE DO;
190   FSS2 = DPSFLAT; FSS1 = 0;
191   DPS2 = DPS; DPS1 = 0;
192 END;
193

NOTE: There were 72564 observations read from the data set WORK.A.
NOTE: The data set WORK.A has 72564 observations and 93 variables.
NOTE: DATA statement used (Total process time):
      real time          0.12 seconds
      cpu time          0.10 seconds

194 DATA A; SET A;
195 IF LSTATUS = 'L' THEN HD = 1; ELSE HD = 0;
196

NOTE: There were 72564 observations read from the data set WORK.A.
NOTE: The data set WORK.A has 72564 observations and 94 variables.
NOTE: DATA statement used (Total process time):
      real time          0.11 seconds
      cpu time          0.10 seconds

197 PROC SORT DATA = A; BY TYPE;
198 TITLE1 'THE MEANS OF THE VARIABLES ON THE ROUTES:';

NOTE: There were 72564 observations read from the data set WORK.A.
NOTE: The data set WORK.A has 72564 observations and 94 variables.
NOTE: PROCEDURE SORT used (Total process time):
      real time          0.23 seconds
      cpu time          0.25 seconds

199 PROC MEANS DATA=A MEAN STD;
200 BY TYPE;

```

```

201 VAR MILES BOXESR BOXESCT BOXESRL NDCBUT PARLOCK POUCHT WITHDT
202 LETTERS FLATS PARCELS BOXHOLD CODCUST REGCERT MARKUP CHGADDR
203 F3821 LOADING PERSNLT MONORDR LETCOLL PARCACC REGACC POSTDUE
204 STAMPST RETRCT ALLOWT DSMOUNT DSMFEET DPS1 DPS2 SECSEG REUNLDT GOVVEHT
205 SCANT SCANITEM CPU CPUITEM FSS1 FSS2 PARS ;
206

```

NOTE: There were 72564 observations read from the data set WORK.A.

NOTE: PROCEDURE MEANS used (Total process time):

real time	0.18 seconds
cpu time	0.18 seconds

```

207 DATA A; SET A;
208 ****;
209 *OTHER CHANGES FY 2009:
210 *1. FORMS 3579 NO LONGER USED;
211 *2. REPLACE WITH FORM 3821 CLEARANCE ITEMS - TREAT AS FIXED      ;
212 *3. APR 2009 - NO REQUIREMENT FOR LOADING TIME TO BE <= 90;
213 *4. NO LONGER APPLICABLE - STAMPS TIME IS 20 MINUTES FOR      ;
214 *   ROUTE REGARDLESS OF L STATUS (4/23/09
215 ****;
216 STAMPTF = STAMPST; STAMPTV = 0;
217 LOADTF = LOADNGT *.5;
218 LOADTV = LOADNGT *.5;
219 F3821TF = F3821T;
220
221 IF PPACCR = 0 THEN PPACCR = PPACCOT;
222
223 FIXED = MILEST + BOXESRT + BOXESCT + NDCBUT + PARLCKT + POUCHT
224     + WITHDT + ADDREST + F3821TF + LOADTF + PERSNLT + STAMPTF
225     + ALLOWT + DISMNTT + DISMNTDT + GOVVEHT + REUNLDT + PARST + SCANT;
226 VARIABLE =
227     DLLETRT + DLFLATT + DLPAROT + DLPARRT
228     + BOXHLDT + CODCSOT + CODCSRT
229     + DLREGOT + DLREGRT + MARKUPT + STRAPT + LOADTV
230     + MNORDOT + MNORDRT + COLLFT + PPACCOT + PPACCR + COLREGT
231     + POSTDUT + STAMPTV + RETRCTT + DPST + SECSEGT + CPUOFCT + CPURTET +
232     + CPUITEMT + DPSFLATT + SCNITEMT ;
233
234 TOTAL = FIXED + VARIABLE;
235 RATIO = VARIABLE/TOTAL;

```

NOTE: There were 72564 observations read from the data set WORK.A.

NOTE: The data set WORK.A has 72564 observations and 103 variables.

NOTE: DATA statement used (Total process time):

real time	0.12 seconds
cpu time	0.12 seconds

```
236 PROC SORT DATA=A; BY TYPE;
```

NOTE: There were 72564 observations read from the data set WORK.A.

NOTE: The data set WORK.A has 72564 observations and 103 variables.

NOTE: PROCEDURE SORT used (Total process time):

real time	0.15 seconds
cpu time	0.20 seconds

```

237 PROC MEANS DATA=A NOPRINT;
238 BY TYPE;
239 VAR VARIABLE TOTAL;
240 OUTPUT OUT=VAR MEAN=;
```

NOTE: There were 72564 observations read from the data set WORK.A.

NOTE: The data set WORK.VAR has 2 observations and 5 variables.

NOTE: PROCEDURE MEANS used (Total process time):

real time	0.02 seconds
cpu time	0.03 seconds

```
241 DATA VAR; SET VAR;  
242 VARRAT = VARIABLE/TOTAL;
```

NOTE: There were 2 observations read from the data set WORK.VAR.

NOTE: The data set WORK.VAR has 2 observations and 6 variables.

NOTE: DATA statement used (Total process time):

real time	0.00 seconds
cpu time	0.01 seconds

```
243 PROC PRINT DATA=VAR;  
244 TITLE1 'RATIO OF VARIABLE TO TOTAL FOR EVAL/OTHER';  
245 RUN;
```

NOTE: There were 2 observations read from the data set WORK.VAR.

NOTE: PROCEDURE PRINT used (Total process time):

real time	0.01 seconds
cpu time	0.01 seconds

## E. SAS Program Output

This is the listing using the February/March 2015 RMC data file.

The SAS System

The FREQ Procedure

Table of YEAR by TYPE

YEAR        TYPE

	Frequency ,	Percent ,	Row Pct ,	Col Pct ,	EVAL ,	OTHR ,	Total
<b>2011</b>	1	0	1		0.00	0.00	0.00
	,	, 100.00	,		, 0.00	, 0.00	, 0.00
<b>2012</b>	19328	5	19333		26.63	0.01	26.64
	,	,			, 99.97	, 0.03	, 0.03
					, 28.97	, 0.09	, 0.09
<b>2013</b>	10738	4	10742		14.79	0.01	14.80
	,	,			, 99.96	, 0.04	, 0.04
					, 16.09	, 0.07	, 0.07
<b>2014</b>	11159	6	11165		15.37	0.01	15.38
	,	,			, 99.95	, 0.05	, 0.05
					, 16.72	, 0.10	, 0.10
<b>2015</b>	25496	5844	31340		35.13	8.05	43.18
	,	,			, 81.35	, 18.65	, 18.65
					, 38.21	, 99.74	, 99.74
<b>Total</b>	<b>66722</b>	<b>5859</b>	<b>72581</b>		<b>91.93</b>	<b>8.07</b>	<b>100.00</b>

THE MEANS OF THE VARIABLES ON THE ROUTES:

TYPE=EVAL

The MEANS Procedure

Variable	Mean	Std Dev
MILES	50.1628453	29.9864981
BOXESR	196.0162625	243.1253563
BOXESCT	127.5095926	222.8156931
BOXESRL	278.0236968	285.2903149
NDCBUT	7.8252645	16.1435059
PARLOCK	12.1666567	25.0394739
POUCHT	0.8574897	7.0939165
Variable	Mean	Std Dev
WITHDT	26.5907251	9.5213680
LETTERS	1479.72	1138.53
FLATS	2663.70	1000.28
PARCELS	300.2246845	125.6509863
BOXHOLD	569.9343231	482.3164883
CODCUST	0.0802082	0.3323765
REGCERT	20.4107512	14.2664296
MARKUP	69.6956294	36.1650871

CHGADDR	1.0514829	2.3160562
f3821	4.1401396	2.4532020
LOADING	57.3518166	18.2617309
PERSNLT	30.0000000	0
MONORDR	0.0536812	0.5187244
LETCOLL	625.6695395	458.4569662
PARCACC	0.8982034	4.1481191
REGACC	0.3763102	3.2988225
POSTDUE	1.6829441	2.5553825
STAMPST	20.0000000	0
RETRCT	0.0728714	3.1159743
ALLOWT	38.4142294	28.3598281
DSMOUNT	51.5150259	123.0270412
DSMFEET	4838.82	9573.34
DPS1	6105.07	5605.93
DPS2	2725.66	3614.83
SECSEG	68.0355127	416.0435521
REUNLDT	18.0000000	0
GOVVEHT	18.6001509	16.4294895
SCANT	6.0000000	0
SCANITEM	345.5149835	175.9444516
CPU	3.6961839	5.1268504
CPUITEM	17.8947061	66.9379195
FSS1	205.6654726	680.3658523
FSS2	0.6536992	29.5097899
PARS	3.2983902	3.1512697
ffffffffffffffffff		

TYPE=OTHR

Variable	Mean	Std Dev
ffffffffff	ffffffffff	ffffffffff
MILES	30.7876770	19.6320944
BOXESR	122.3159425	124.1174831
BOXESCT	68.6431748	121.6677575
BOXESRL	89.4456038	138.5691640
NDCBUT	4.4644201	10.6775117
PARLOCK	6.5646596	15.4013601
POUCHT	2.1604516	14.8630100
WITHDT	23.5494355	12.3261162
LETTERS	732.1913274	892.0097326
FLATS	1016.88	547.4607577
PARCELS	143.8546585	81.6099640
BOXHOLD	232.3053370	241.0823349
CODCUST	0.0287946	0.1624869
REGCERT	8.8036549	7.4126173
MARKUP	44.2094309	24.2647301
CHGADDR	0.4499373	1.2863414
f3821	2.5760919	2.2608360
LOADING	34.6428897	14.9516423
PERSNLT	30.0000000	0
MONORDR	0.0408541	0.4465422
LETCOLL	267.0840176	284.8463428
PARCACC	0.5721291	3.6004791
REGACC	0.1555765	1.4432442
ffffffffffffffffff		

THE MEANS OF THE VARIABLES ON THE ROUTES:

TYPE=OTHR

The MEANS Procedure

Variable	Mean	Std Dev
ffffffffff	ffffffffff	ffffffffff
POSTDUE	0.7910537	1.3813131
STAMPST	20.0000000	0
RETRCT	0.0172198	0.5744356
ALLOWT	28.3078293	54.8930871

DSMOUNT	27.3996180	46.4432036
DSMFEET	2933.50	5872.24
DPS1	1793.20	2575.82
DPS2	1121.71	1913.51
SECSEG	483.3309956	825.6284903
REUNLDT	18.0000000	0
GOVVEHT	14.6769381	15.7090093
SCANT	6.0000000	0
SCANITEM	174.6333675	131.0963105
CPU	2.0004276	5.7886282
CPUITEM	12.5483236	102.3925919
FSS1	37.8216444	216.5716663
FSS2	1.1534953	33.0522930
PARS	1.5035352	2.1567499
<i>ffffffffffffffffff</i>		

RATIO OF VARIABLE TO TOTAL FOR EVAL/OTHER

Obs	TYPE	_TYPE_	_FREQ_	VARIABLE	TOTAL	VARRAT
1	EVAL	0	66718	1101.27	2985.16	0.36892
2	OTHR	0	5846	495.37	1540.25	0.32162